

**AMENDMENTS**

***In the Claims:***

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

- 1        1. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2              a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a member  
3              forming a channel that protrudes from the housing, said channel member having a first  
4              surface side that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source-contact  
5              surface, said channel member having a second surface side substantially orthogonal to  
6              the first surface side, wherein the member extends to an exterior surface of said housing;  
7              and  
8              a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing  
9              surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the  
10             source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the first and second surface sides  
11             of the channel member form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned.
  
- 1        2. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a portion of the  
2              vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit scanning of a  
3              source document in a vertical position.
  
- 1        3. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein a front panel of  
2              the housing includes comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
  
- 1        4. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap includes  
2              comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.
  
- 1        5. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the flap includes  
2              comprises a slot.

1       6. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the source-  
2 backing surface of the flap ~~includes~~ comprises a clip arranged to receive a portion of a  
3 source document to be scanned.

1       7. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the ~~channel member~~ when  
3 an operator closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially vertical surface  
4 of the housing.

1       8. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the platen has an  
2 upper edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front panel  
3 of the housing, and a distal edge and wherein the ~~channel member~~ is adjacent to the  
4 lower edge of the platen.

1       9. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 3, wherein the ~~channel~~  
2 member has a first end proximal to a ~~the~~ front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to an edge of the platen.

1       10. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially  
3 separated detent positions.

1       11. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 4, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the  
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1       12. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on the  
3 ~~channel member~~ wherein such that information to be scanned is aligned with at least a  
4 portion of a platen.

1        13. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the housing is  
2 configured to extend the channel member away from the vertical source-contact surface  
3 when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the vertical source-  
4 contact surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1        14. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2, wherein the width of a  
2 first end of the channel member proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over a  
3 that portion of the channel length of the member that extends beyond the platen.

1        15. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 9, wherein the channel  
2 member is coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1        16. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2            means for housing an optical scanning means; and  
3            means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of a  
4 source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the optical scanning means  
5 without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a second horizontal edge  
6 different from the leading edge of said source along a channel means when the source is  
7 aligned with the means for optically scanning while in the aperture and spatially arranged  
8 with the means for optically scanning, wherein said channel means protrudes from said  
9 means for housing and comprises a source retaining means substantially parallel to, and  
10 opposed from, said optical scanning means and a source support means substantially  
11 orthogonal to said source retaining means.

1        17. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the a source  
2 retaining means of said channel means extends vertically from a base of said channel  
3 means and said source support means is substantially parallel to said base of said channel  
4 means.

1        18. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means for  
2 forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

1           19. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means for  
2 forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a housing and a  
3 second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1           20. (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,  
2 comprising:

3           providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a substantially  
4 vertical source-contact surface with a member forming a channel protruding from the  
5 housing, ~~the channel having a surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from,~~  
6 ~~said source-contact surface, the vertical source-contact surface including a transparent~~  
7 ~~platen portion, wherein the channel is adjacent to a lower edge of the transparent platen~~  
8 ~~portion and further comprises a second surface substantially orthogonal to the first~~  
9 ~~surface; and~~

10          providing coupling a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a  
11 slot extending to an edge of the flap and source-backing surface substantially parallel to  
12 the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-  
13 backing surface, and the ~~first and second surfaces of the channel member~~ form an  
14 aperture for horizontally receiving a source to be scanned.

1           21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising  
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the source-  
3 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel member such that a  
4 horizontal edge of the source different from the leading edge is supported along a second  
5 edge by the channel member.

1           22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising  
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein pressure is applied to a non-scan  
3 surface of the source and the scan surface of the source closely contacts the transparent  
4 platen portion.

1           23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising  
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1        24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising spatially arranging  
2 the flap and the housing wherein pressure is removed from the non-scan surface of the  
3 source.

1        25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising  
2 removing the source from the aperture.

1        26. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;  
3            a member forming a channel protruding from the housing, ~~said channel having a~~  
4 ~~first surface that is substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source contact~~  
5 ~~surface and a second surface that is substantially orthogonal to the first surface;~~ and  
6            a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface  
7 substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-  
8 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the ~~first and second surfaces of the~~  
9 ~~channel member~~ form an aperture for horizontally receiving ~~an edge~~ of a source to be  
10 scanned without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1        27. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the opening aperture, the  
3 inclined surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1        28. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2 includes comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface  
3 arranged to increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is  
4 substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1        29. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap  
2 includes comprises a slot.

1        30. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on said

3 channel member and wherein information to be scanned from the source document is  
4 aligned with at least a portion of a platen.

1 31. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said channel member when  
3 the source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1 32. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said channel  
2 member has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to a distal edge of a platen.

1 33. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-  
3 separated detent positions.

1 34. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing is  
2 ~~configured to extend said channel member moves relative to~~ the source-contact surface  
3 when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact  
4 surface to increase the width of the aperture.

1 35. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width of  
2 said channel member ~~at a first end of said channel proximal to a front panel of the~~  
3 ~~housing increases over that portion of said channel that extends beyond a platen varies~~  
4 over the length of the member.

1 36. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 26, wherein said channel  
2 member is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

1       37. (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner  
2 comprising:

3       horizontally inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a  
4       channel member that protrudes from a housing, the channel having a first surface that is  
5       substantially parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner such that a surface of  
6       the source having information thereon that is desired to be imaged by the scanner is  
7       adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane and such that a second edge  
8       of the source, different from the leading edge, is supported by a base surface of said  
9       channel member, said base surface extending adjacent to an edge of said platen having a  
10      width that varies along the length of the member; and

11      adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned  
12      with the sensor.

1       38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising:  
2       inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with the  
3       platen of the scanner; and  
4       enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1       39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:  
2       removing the plug; and  
3       removing the source from the aperture.

1       40. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2       a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;  
3       a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing  
4       surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing; and  
5       a support track member interposed between said housing and said flap, said  
6       support track comprising a first member in juxtaposition with the substantially vertical  
7       source-contact surface and the source-contact surface, and extending to a front panel of  
8       the housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and said  
9       support track member form an aperture for horizontally receiving an edge of a source to  
10      be scanned without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1       41. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein a portion of  
2 the vertical source-contact surface of the housing comprises a platen to permit scanning  
3 of a source document in a vertical position.

1       42. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 41, wherein the platen has  
2 an upper edge, an opposing lower edge, a front edge relatively coexistent with a front  
3 panel of the housing, and a distal edge and wherein said support track member is adjacent  
4 to the lower edge of the platen.

1       43. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 42, wherein said support  
2 track member has a ~~first end proximal to the front panel of the housing and a distal end~~  
3 that extends at least to the distal edge of the platen.

1       44. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the width of a  
2 ~~first end of said support track member proximal to the front panel of the housing~~  
3 ~~increases over that portion of said support track that extends beyond the platen varies.~~

1       45. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein said housing  
2 comprises a front panel having an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.

1       46. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap  
2 comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture.

1       47. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap  
2 comprises a slot.

1       48. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 47, wherein the slot is  
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on said  
3 support track member wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a  
4 portion of a platen.

1        49. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially  
3 separated detent positions.

1        50. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one adjustable fastener for closely contacting the  
3 source-backing surface to the vertical source-contact surface.

1        51. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the source-  
2 backing surface of the flap comprises a clip arranged to receive a portion of a source  
3 document to be scanned.

1        52. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 40, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a second member of said support ~~track~~  
3 member when an operator closely adjusts the source contact surface to the substantially  
4 vertical surface of the housing.

1        53. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 52, wherein the ~~housing is~~  
2 ~~configured to extend said support track member moves relative to from~~ the vertical  
3 source-contact surface when an operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to  
4 the vertical source-contact surface of the housing to increase the width of the aperture.

1        54. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 40, wherein said support  
2 ~~track~~ member is coated with a layer of material having a relatively low coefficient of  
3 friction.

1        55. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2            means for housing an optical scanning means; and  
3            means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of a  
4            source transferred horizontally along a plane substantially orthogonal to a front surface of  
5            the means for housing, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the optical  
6            scanning means without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a  
7            second edge of said source by a support means in the aperture, said support means  
8            extending to a front panel of the means for housing, wherein said support means is  
9            interposed between a first source-retaining means and said optical scanning means.

1        56. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein said support  
2            means comprises a second source retaining means substantially parallel to the optical  
3            scanning means.

1        57. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein the first source  
2            retaining means comprises a flap having a slot.

1        58. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 55, wherein the means for  
2            forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with said means for a  
3            housing and a second inclined surface associated with the first source retaining means.

1       59. (Currently Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,  
2 comprising:

3       providing an optical scanner within a housing, the housing having a substantially  
4 vertical source-contact surface with a support track member protruding from the housing,  
5 the support track member having a first member comprising a first source backing  
6 surface substantially parallel to, and opposed from, said source contact surface extending  
7 to the exterior of the housing; and

8       providing a flap closely coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap, having a  
9 second source backing surface substantially parallel to the source contact surface of the  
10 housing, the second source backing surface substantially parallel to and opposed from, a  
11 second surface of the first member, the second source backing surface also opposed to  
12 said first source backing surface, wherein the source contact surface, the second source-  
13 backing surface, and the first source backing surface form support member, and source-  
14 contact surface forming an aperture for receiving a source moved horizontally to be  
15 scanned.

1       60. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 59, further comprising  
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by the source-  
3 contact surface, the second source backing surface, and the support track such that the  
4 source is supported along a second edge by the support track.

1       61. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, further comprising  
2 spatially arranging the flap and the housing wherein the second source backing surface  
3 and the first source backing surface are juxtaposed to a non-scan surface of the source  
4 and a scan surface of the source is juxtaposed to the source contact surface wherein  
5 inserting is accomplished absent relative movement between the flap and the housing.

1       62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 61, further comprising  
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1       63. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 62, further comprising  
2 removing the source from the aperture.

1       64. (Currently Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:  
2           a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface comprising a  
3           platen;  
4           a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface  
5           substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing; and  
6           a support track member interposed between the source-contact surface and the  
7           source-backing surface proximal to a perimeter segment of the platen, ~~said support track~~  
8           comprising a first member having a first surface juxtaposed from the source-contact  
9           surface and a second surface juxtaposed from the source-backing surface and a support  
10          member, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the support  
11          track member form an aperture for receiving a first edge of a source ~~to be scanned moved~~  
12          horizontally without necessitating relative movement between the flap and the housing to  
13          align a second edge of the source with the perimeter segment of the platen.

1       65. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing  
2           contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture, the inclined  
3           surface arranged such that the aperture is larger adjacent to the front panel.

1       66. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap  
2           includes comprises an inclined surface adjacent to the aperture, the inclined surface  
3           arranged such that the aperture is larger adjacent to a front edge of the flap, wherein the  
4           front edge is substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1       67. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap  
2           includes comprises a slot.

1       68. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 67, wherein the slot is  
2           positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document ~~on edge~~ on said  
3           support track member and wherein information to be scanned from the source document  
4           is aligned with at least a portion of the platen.

1       69. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing  
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of said support ~~track member~~  
3 when the source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1       70. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein said support  
2 ~~track member~~ has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that  
3 extends at least to a distal edge of the platen.

1       71. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the flap is  
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-  
3 separated detent positions.

1       72. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the housing is  
2 configured to extend said support ~~track member~~ from the source-contact surface when an  
3 operator adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to  
4 increase the width of the aperture.

1       73. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein the width of  
2 said support ~~track member~~ at a first end of said support ~~track proximal to a front panel of~~  
3 ~~the housing increases over that portion of said support track that extends beyond the~~  
4 ~~platen-varies.~~

1       74. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 64, wherein an upper  
2 surface of said support ~~track member~~ is coated with a material having a relatively low  
3 coefficient of friction.

1       75. (Currently Amended) A method for arranging a source in a scanner  
2 comprising:

3       horizontally inserting a leading edge of the source into an aperture formed by a  
4       support track member that protrudes from a housing, the support track comprising a first  
5       member and a second member, the first member having a surface that is substantially  
6       parallel to, and opposed from, a platen of the scanner interposed between a platen and a  
7       flap such that a surface of the source having information thereon that is desired to be  
8       imaged by the scanner is adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane  
9       and such that said leading edge is supported by an upper surface of the second member,  
10      said upper surface extending adjacent to an edge of said platen; and

11       adjusting the source such that the information desired to be imaged is aligned  
12      with the sensor.

1       76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 75, further comprising:  
2       inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with the  
3       platen of the scanner; and  
4       enabling the sensor to scan the information.

1       77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76, further comprising:  
2       removing the plug; and  
3       removing the source from the aperture.